

## DOCUMENT 2723

LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS, after having been duly sworn, testified at the Town of Palo, Province of Leyte, P. I., on 18 October, 1945, as follows:

Q State your name, age, nationality and address.  
A Leonora Palacio Villas, 21 years old, Filipino, residing at 24 Luntad Street, Palo, Leyte, P. I.

Q In February 1942 did you or your brothers suffer any indignities or mistreatment at the hands of the Japanese stationed in Palo?  
A On Sunday afternoon in the middle of February 1942, myself and my two brothers, Fidel and Florentino and some other members of the family were taken to the Municipal building in Palo. That afternoon my brother's child had been baptized and at the house there were a number of guerrillas and friends of the family. One of the guerrillas was discovered and the Japanese, believing that there were others there, took myself, my brothers and other members of the family to Palo municipal jail and concentrated us. We were kept overnight in the municipal jail and during this period we were never questioned by the Japanese soldiers. My brother Fidel was taken out, his hands were tied behind his back and another rope was tied to his hands and thrown over a tree. He hung there stark naked. As he hung there a Japanese soldier beat him unmercifully, drawing blood from his eyes and his nose and other parts of his body. He was also whipped with a thorn branch on various parts of his body. He was continually beaten for a period of three hours. While he was hanging there the Japanese poured gasoline under his arms and around his private parts and they set it afire. As he hung there he shouted for help due to the intensity of the burns and beating. He was very weak and almost unconscious when he was cut down and taken into the prison. As soon as Fidel was cut down my brother Florentino was tied in a similar fashion and beaten for a period of about three and a half hours, drawing blood from his eyes, ears, nose and various parts of his body. He was also beaten with a switch. Gasoline was poured on the hair underneath his arms, on the hair around his private parts and set afire. Both my brothers were cut down but at no time were they given any medical treatment for their wounds and burns they had suffered at the hands of the Japanese. Florentino was twenty three years old, Fidel about thirty three. Both of them have scars around and underneath their arms and around their private parts. After Fidel had been cut down he was brought by a patrol to identify places where guerrillas might possibly be located. My younger brother, Florentino was left in jail and nothing further was done about him. Two days after they were tortured, both my brothers were taken to Tacloban. They were kept in the Japanese garrison at Tacloban for a period of about two months. My brothers were released from prison but were not allowed to return to Palo. My brothers told me that while they were in prison at Tacloban they suffered further indignities at the hands of the Japanese. Florentino was burned again about the arms and their scars are

still present. Fidel was hung again and beaten unmercifully by the Japanese and his eyes were swollen and shut, he spit blood and his body was covered with bruises. I had been released on Monday morning after the torture of my brothers. On Tuesday morning I was taken by the Japanese soldiers to the municipal building. The Japanese removed all my clothing and as I stood there naked the Japanese soldiers beat me with a switch. The Japanese soldiers took my clothes and dressed me and gave me a little water. I spent three days in jail without any medical treatment and could hardly move because my body was so stiff and sore from the treatment I had received. While I was in prison for this 3-day period the Japanese gave me some food and water but in no way molested me.

Q Did any other members of your family suffer beatings at the hands of the Japanese?

A No. They were released on Sunday and sent home.

Q Do you know who was responsible for the beating administered to your brothers and to yourself?

A Captain Humejara. He was about 5'9", 160 pounds, did not wear glasses, spoke no English or Visayan, no scars that were visible, no amputations, no gold teeth, light brown complexion, had a mustache, short hair, about 35 years old. Sgt. Estani, white complexion, 5 feet tall, about 110 pounds, wore glasses, no scars and marks on his face, no amputations, spoke English and little Visayan, no mustache, no gold teeth, about 26 years old, very close cropped hair. These are the only two Japanese that I remember.

Q Have you anything further to add to this statement?

A None.

/s/ Leonora Palacio Villas  
LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS

COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE } SS  
TOWN OF PALO } }

I, LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read and understood the foregoing transcription of my interrogation and all answers contained therein, consisting of two (2) pages, are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Leonora Palacio Villas  
LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of October, 1945.

/s/ John J. Mullahy  
JOHN J. MULLAHY, 1st Lt., C.M.I.  
Investigating Officer, War  
Crimes Investigating Detachment

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C E R T I F I C A T E

We, ADDISON T. SHEPHERD, 2d Lt., 02052606, JAGD and JOHN J. MULLAHY, 1st Lt., 01798502, C.M.P., certify that on 18th day of October, 1945, personally appeared before us LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS, and gave the foregoing answers to the several questions set forth; that after her testimony had been transcribed, the said LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS read the same and affixed her signature thereto in our presence.

Town of Palo,  
Leyte, P. I.

/s/ Addison T. Shepherd  
ADDISON T. SHEPHERD, 2nd Lt.JAG

19th day of October,  
1945

/s/ John J. Mullahy  
JOHN J. MULLAHY, 1st Lt., C.M.P.  
Investigating Officer, War  
Crimes Investigating Detachment.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Alva C. Carpenter, Chief, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that the attached photostatic copy of the affidavit of LEONORA PALACIO VILLAS is a true and correct reproduction of the original affidavit; and that a signed and sworn copy of said affidavit is presently on file with this Section.

/s/ Alva C. Carpenter  
Alva C. Carpenter,  
Chief, Legal Section.

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard  
Sworn to before me this 29th  
day of October, 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard  
Captain, Infantry  
Summary Court

Doc 27234

證明書

Ex 1417

余聯合國最高法院官總司令於法律部長  
公添附「二十九年十二月三日」信書、官員處複寫「信書  
草本」、宣誓人及公證人複寫「署名」宣誓書  
寫之現行當於書類錄中「二七二三」為二證明人。

法律部長

「二十九年十二月三日」(署名)

證人「二九、二九、二九八一」(署名)

日本東京於一九四六年正月二十九日余面商  
於宣誓人及公證人。

即決裁判部

步兵大尉「二九、二九、二九八一」

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Dot 2723

同治，名年鑑，國朝精華三往游，著《漢文

（本卷所引之書，皆系著者所用之書，故不一一註出）

卷之三

問 一九三三年二月廿六日，英、法、美、荷、比、日、蘇、比利時八國駐日公使，對日本公使  
「何等方法得致六月廿六日之變」。

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Dec 27 23

ヨリ市麿の連行を命ぜられ奉人八月二日、市麿を  
取立奉りソナレ和官宣文三牒にて日本に歸り日本八年  
隊八年之糧下支へ日本八年隊八年衣服を取立和官差  
衣中也ソナレ和官差支水引タリ又奉人附節済ノ何ノ沿  
天下ノ三日過三日ソナレ和官隊分和からり取扱申可非  
一被道ノ又漏れ申中松ノト勅事が出来十カト

No 4

Q#1418

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**C E R T I F I C A T E**

I, Alva C. Carpenter, Chief, Legal Section, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, do hereby certify that the attached photostatic copy of the affidavit of TAYAMBONG CHAGSA is a true and correct reproduction of the original affidavit; and that a signed and sworn copy of said affidavit is presently on file with this Section.

/s/ Alva C. Carpenter  
Alva C. Carpenter,  
Chief, Legal Section.

Witness: /s/ John R. Pritchard  
Sworn to before me this 29th  
day of October, 1946, Tokyo, Japan.

/s/ John R. Pritchard  
Captain, Infantry  
Summary Court